

Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 XMB-02 /134 W

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R 041315Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3477

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT COUNCIL JUNE 2

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REF: A. STATE 126555 (NOTAL); (B) GENEVA 3792

BEGIN SUMMARY. IN JUNE 2 GATT COUNCIL, U.S., EC, JAPAN REGRETTED RECENT AUSTRALIAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS; US ASKED THAT ALL EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE SCHEMES BE NOTIFIED; PORTUGAL ANNOUNCED BOP IMPORT SURTAX; EC AND ISRAEL BROACHED SUBJECT NEW TRADE AGREEMENT WITHOUT PROVOKING COMMENT; FINNS ANNOUNCED ANOTHER "FREE TRADE AGREEMENT" WITH AN EASTERN COUNTRY. THIS TIME EAST GERMANY. U.S. WILL REQUIRE VOTING AUTHORITY ON TWO ITEMS. END SUMMARY.

1. PROVISIONAL ACCESSION OF COLOMBIA. US STATED SUPPORT FOR COLOMBIAN ACCESSION, BUT REGRETTED THAT COLOMBIA HAD RAISED NUMEROUS TARIFFS AFTER W.P. REVIEW OF COLOMBIAN TRADE POLICY AND ASKED THAT THESE INCREASES BE NOTIFIED. COLOMBIA SAID THEY HOPE TAKE DECISION ON FULL ACCESSION BY END OF MTN. COLOMBIA PROMISED REPORT RECENT TARIFF CHANGES TO SECRETARIAT, SAID SOME TARIFFS INCREASED AND OTHERS DECREASED IN EFFORT TO "HARMONIZE." IN LATER DISCUSSION, AMB. JARAMILLO SAID THIS REFERS TO COLOMBIAN EFFORTS TO CHARGE SAME DUTY FOR PRODUCTS GOING TO SAME END-USE. PROVISIONAL ACCESSION PUT TO VOTE. ACTION REQUIRED: AS NOTED IN REFTEL (B), WE REQUIRE WASHINGTON AUTHORITY TO VOTE RPT. VOTE FOR.

2. BOP REPORTS. FINLAND REPORTS ADOPTED ROUTINELY WITH CANADA HOPING DEPOSITS COULD BE PHASED OUT BEFORE TERMINATION DATE OF MARCH 1976. CHILE REPORT ADOPTED WITHOUT COMMENT. TURKEY REPORT APPROVED; JAPAN ASKED TURKEY MAKE EFFORT END STAMP TAX AT SOONEST POSSIBLE DATE. WAIVER EXTENSION ON STAMP TAX PUT TO VOTE. ACTION REQUIRED: REQUEST AUTHORITY TO VOTE FOR.

3. ANGLO-IRISH FREE TRADE AGREEMENT. COUNCIL TOOK NOTE.

4. CONSULTATIONS WITH POLAND. W.P. FORMED TO CONDUCT 8TH ANNUAL CONSULTATION UNDER TERMS OF ACCESSION AND CONSIDER TERMINAL DATE FOR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, PER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARA 3(A) OF PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION. MEMBERSHIP UNCHANGED; INCLUDES U.S. CHAIRMAN IS CHADHA OF INDIA. POLAND EXPRESSED CUSTOMARY REGRET THAT W.P. HAD NOT HERETOFORE AGREED ON TERMINAL DATE.

5. AUSTRALIAN IMPORT MEASURES. US, UNDER OTHER BUSINESS, NOTED WE EXPRESSED REGRET AND CONCERN IN PREVIOUS COUNCILS OVER DANGERS OF AUSTRALIAN IMPORT

MEASURES. WE NOTED AT LEAST SOME NEW MEASURES HAD BEEN ADOPTED SINCE LAST COUNCIL AND ASKED THAT AUSTRALIA GIVE INFO ON WHEN MEASURES MIGHT BE PHASED OUT. EC, PAPAN SUPPORT. AUSTRALIA SAID CARPETS AND MUSHROOM ONLY NEW ITEMS AFFECTED AND GAVE STANDARD GATT/OECD/BILATERAL DEFENSE NOT UNLIKE AIDE-MEMOIRE QUATED IN CANBERRA 3541.

6. EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE. US, UNDER OTHER BUSINESS, SAID IN PREVIOUS COUNCIL WE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER UK SCHEME AND SAID WE NOTE OTHER GATT COUNTRIES HAVE IN EFFECT SIMILAR SYSTEMS WHICH NOT NOTIFIED. US SAID QUESTION OF EXPORT SUBSIDIES ESPECIALLY IMPORT IN TODAY'S TRADE CLOMATE AND SAID ALL COUNTRIES HAVING EXPORT COST INSURANCE SCHEMES SHOULD NOTIFY THEM IN GATT. JAPAN RECALLED THEY HAD SHARED US CONCERN AT PREVIOUS COUNCIL AND REPEATED SAME. CHAIRMAN SAID COUNCIL WOULD PROVIDE POSSIBILITY OF REFERRING TO SUBJECT IN FUTURE.

7. ADDITIONAL OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS.

(A) PORTUGUESE IMPORT SURTAX. PORTUGAL SAID SURTAX BEING INTRODUCED JUNE 2 FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS REASONS, PROMISED SUBMIT FULL TEXT OF DECREE. SAID MEASURE WILL BE NONDISCRIMINATORY AND EXPORSSSED WILLINGNESS ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS WITH ANY C.O. CHAIR NOTED THAT IMF CONSULTATION PROCEDURES FOLLOWED BY BOP COMMITTEE EXAMINATION IS NORMAL COURSE; COUNCIL APPROVEL SUCH HANDLING.

(B) FINLAND-GDR AGREEMENT. FINLAND SAID AGREE-
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WILL BE SUBMITTED IN DUE COURSE.

(C) EC-GREECE AGREEMENT. EC SAID PROTOCOL ADJUSTING FOR EC ENLARGEMENT HAD BEEN CONCLUDED APRIL 28, TO TAKE EFFECT JULY 1. MEANWHILE, INTERIM PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT COVERS GREEK-EC TRADE FOR THREE NEW EC MEMBER STATES. EC, GREECE SAID THEY WILL BE PREPARED NOTIFY PROTOCOL TO GATT AND WILLING SUBMIT TO NORMAL ART. XXIV PROCEDURES.

(D) EC-ISREAL AGREEMENT. EC SAID ON MAY 11 NEW AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH ISRAEL, EFFECTIVE JULY 1. SAID THIS WAS ALREADY FORESEEN BY 1970 AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS EXAMINED IN GATT. PROVIDES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE TRADE AREA AND FOR EXONOMIC COOPERATION AS

COMPLEMENTING FACTOR TO TRADE; SIMILAR AGREEMENT MADE FOR COAL AND STEEL SECTOR. EC SAID BOTH AGREEMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED SOON AND THEY PREPARED FOLLOW TRADITIONAL GATT EXAMINATION PROCEDURES. ISRAEL MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT. CHAIRMAN SAID COUNCIL COULD REVERT TO MATTER WHEN TEXTS CIRCULATED AND QUICKLY CRACKED GAVEL.

(E) PRIOR TO COUNCIL, ARGENTINE MISSION INDICATED THEY HAD JUST SUBMITTED DOCUMENT TO GATT SECRETARIAT DESCRIBING LATEST BOP-RELATED CHANGES IN IMPORT SYSTEM; WE THUS DID NOT REQUEST INFORMATION IN COUNCIL AS REFTEL (A) HAD REQUESTED.

(F) NO DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE ON GATT SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES. SEPTEL FOLLOWS ON SEPARATE INFORMAL DISCUSSION. DALE

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